

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 EB-11 NIC-01 RSR-01 /103 W
----- 061937

R 270759 Z JUN 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7386
INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 6448

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, ML

SUBJ: MALIAN PRESIDENT VISITS PRC

REF: A) PEKING 0365; B) HONG KONG 6191

SUMMARY: THE PRESIDENT OF MALI COLONEL MOUSSA TRAORE ARRIVED IN PEKING ON JUNE 20 FOR A STATE VISIT. THE PRESIDENT HAD A " CORDIAL AND FRIENDLY" TALK WITH MAO, FOLLOWED BY A VISIT TO A PLA UNIT. NO DETAILS WERE GIVEN OF A NEW AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION BUT THE MANATALI DAM PROJECT WAS PROBABLY DISCUSSED. END SUMMARY

1. THE PRESIDENT OF MALI, COLONEL MOUSSA TRAORE, AND A DELEGATION OF MALIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARRIVED IN PEKING ON JUNE 20 FOR A STATE VISIT. AT A BANQUET HONORING THE MALIANS CHOU EN- LAI PRAISED HIS GUESTS FOR THEIR POLICY OF NON- ALIGNMENT AND ADHERENCE TO THE OAU CHARTER AND SUPPORTED THEM IN THEIR STRUGGLES AGAINST " IMPERIALISM, COLONIALISM, NEO- COLONIALISM, AND AMBITIOUS EXPAN- SIONISM." THE LAST TERM IS AN ADDITION TO THE OLD TRINITY OF ENEMIES AND IS AN OBVIOUS REFERENCE TO THE USSR. NO REFERENCE WAS MADE TO THE " SUPER POWERS" NOR WAS THE US MENTIONED BY NAME. IN THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE VISIT, THE MALIAN HEAD OF STATE ON JUNE 23 WAS RECEIVED BY CHAIRMAN MAO. MAO REPORTEDLY STRESSED CHINA' S UNITY
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WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (WE ALL BELONG TO THE THIRD WORLD").
SUBSEQUENTLY THE DELEGATION VISITED A PEKING MILITARY UNIT.

2. ON JUNE 24 AN AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION
WAS SIGNED BUT NO DETAILS OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE AGREEMENT WERE
GIVEN. THE MALIAN MINISTER OF PRODUCTION AND THE DIRECTOR OF WATER
POWER WERE PART OF THE DELEGATION, HOWEVER, SUGGESTING THAT THE
TWO
SIDES HELD
DISCUSSIONS ON THE PROPOSED MANATALI DAM PROJECT.

3. PEKING REPORTEDLY HAD PREVIOUSLY AGREED TO UNDERTAKE VARIOUS
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN MALI AND THE TRAINING OF AN UN-
DETERMINED NUMBER OF MALIAN OFFICERS AND MEN. (BAMAOKO A-97, NOV 10,
1972.) THE DELEGATION MAY HAVE ALSO WORKED ON THE DETAILS OF
THAT AGREEMENT.
OSBORN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973HONGK06448
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730627/aaaajmiq.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 PEKING 0365, 73 HONG KONG 6191
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <29-Aug-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980224
Subject: MALIAN PRESIDENT VISITS PRC
TAGS: PFOR, CH, ML
To: BAMAKO
EA
SECSTATE WASHDC
USLO PEKING
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005